

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (original): A file, provided with a front cover, a back cover and a spine connecting the covers, wherein at least the front cover and the back cover are provided with a longitudinal edge and wherein a closure element is provided, which can be coupled with at least one longitudinal edge, such that the space enclosed by the front cover, back cover and the spine is at least partly covered by the closure element and the file with the closure element has a partly open or substantially closed box shape.

Claim 2. (original): A file according to claim 1, wherein a binding element is provided for detachably fixing sheets, between the front cover and the back cover.

Claim 3. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the closure element is detachable and/or pivotally connected to at least a part of at least one longitudinal edge.

Claim 4. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the closure element comprises at least three parts, such that a first part is or can be connected to the parts of the longitudinal edges of the front cover and back cover that are remote from the spine, while the two remaining parts can connect to the longitudinal edge parts on the upper side and bottom side of the file respectively.

Claim 5. (original): A file according to claim 4, wherein said parts are pivotally interconnected.

Claim 6. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the closure element is manufactured in one piece, preferably by injection molding.

Claim 7. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the closure element near two opposite edges is provided with clamping means for clamping it on longitudinal edges of the front cover, back cover and/or the spine.

Claim 8. (currently amended): A file according to claim 7, wherein the clamping means are arranged for cooperation with various thicknesses of longitudinal edges of covers.

Claim 9. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the front cover and/or the back cover is provided along the said longitudinal edges with a wall part raised in relation to the surface of the respective cover.

Claim 10. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the closure element is provided with coupling means for coupling with a similar closure element, such that files arranged next to each other can be intercoupled by the closure elements.

Claim 11. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein in the spine at least one opening is provided through which a finger can be inserted for manipulating the file, wherein a sealing cap is provided that can be pushed into said at least one opening for closure thereof.

Claim 12. (currently amended): A file according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~, wherein the closure element comprises at least two parts, of which a first part is fixable against the file as a bottom side and the other, second part is fixable against the open side of the file near said first part.

Claim 13. (original): A file according to claim 12, wherein a similar two-part closure element is provided that is fixable partly on top of and partly against the side of the file, such that a completely closed box-shaped file is obtained.

Claim 14. (original): A file according to claim 12, wherein the file with placed closure element forms a partly closed box-shaped file container, preferably without arch.

Claim 15. (currently amended): A closure element, evidently intended and suitable for use in or with a file according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~.